

WASHINGTON.

"Liberty and Union, now and forever, one and inseparable."

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 19, 1850.

MR. HUNT'S LETTER.

We insert in another column the letter with which the Hon. WASHINGTON HUNT, of New York, has responded to his nomination by the Syracuse Convention as the Whig candidate for the office of Governor of the State. Although relating to questions rather of local than of national politics, it is due to a matter which deeply affects so large a community, as well as to the estimable gentleman himself, that this communication, explanatory of his views of the somewhat peculiar circumstances under which he is brought before the public, should find a place in our columns. In regard to these circumstances we do not feel ourselves called upon at present to add any thing to what we said a few days ago. Whatever diversity of sentiment may exist among the Whigs of New York in relation to the disturbing element which was unfortunately introduced into the Syracuse Convention, and which led to its rupture, there will be no diversity, we apprehend, respecting the candidates selected by that assembly for the chief offices of the State. Of this, however, we shall not be left long in doubt, as the dissenting and retiring members of the Syracuse Convention were to meet in Convention at Utica, the day before yesterday, to decide upon a course of action.

Among the Whig members of the present Congress who have been elected to the next, against opposition, we have not heard of one whose success we have been more gratified to learn than that of the sterling and truly National Whig, the Hon. JOHN L. TAYLOR, of Ohio. He has been re-elected by a majority of 570 votes over the two regularly nominated Locofoco and Abolition candidates, which reflects as much honor on the intelligence of his constituents as upon himself; for Mr. Taylor was one of those Whigs from the "free" States who voted for the fugitive slave bill, and his vote has been triumphantly sustained at home, even against the combined forces of Locofocoism and Abolitionism.

COMPLIMENTARY DINNER.—A public dinner was given to Senators MASON and HUNTER, of Virginia, on the 2d instant, by a number of the citizens of Fauquier county, in testimony of their respect for the zeal, fidelity, and ability displayed by those Senators, during the late session of Congress, in defence of Southern rights.

Hon. D. D. BARNARD, the recently appointed Minister Plenipotentiary to Russia, sailed from New York on Wednesday, in the ship Zurich, for Havre. He is accompanied by his wife and daughter.

PENNSYLVANIA ELECTION.—HENRY M. FULLER, Whig, has been elected to Congress from the 11th district, by about fifty majority. This makes the delegation stand fifteen Democrats to nine Whigs.

We observe by late Mississippi papers that Judge SHARKEY, President of the Nashville Convention, was to address a meeting of the friends of the Union at Vicksburg. He repudiates ultraism in all its forms, and sustains the action of Congress in the adjustment of the questions growing out of the acquisition of Mexican territory. This will be rather a severe blow to the disunionists in Mississippi.

AGRICULTURAL FAIR AND CATTLE SHOW.—Our agricultural readers should bear in mind that the annual Fair and Cattle Show of the Maryland Agricultural Society is to commence on Wednesday next, at their enclosure, near the southern limits of the city of Baltimore. It promises, as we learn, to excel all previous exhibitions of the Society.

GEO. W. MORRISON (Dem.) has been elected to Congress from the third district of New Hampshire, to fill the vacancy caused by the resignation of Hon. JAMES WILSON, (Whig.) His majority is very small. The late Legislature gerrymandered the district to favor the Democrats.

BOUNDARY BETWEEN MISSOURI AND IOWA.—The Commissioners appointed by the proper authorities of Iowa and Missouri to run the line of boundary between the two States have finished their labors and prepared their report, to be presented to their respective Governments. They were engaged four months in running the line.

NAVY.—The United States steamer *Saracen*, Captain TAYLOR, left the Gosport navy yard on Tuesday for New York, where she is to be fitted out for the East India station, and will be absent two or three years.

The assessments of real estate in the city of Richmond, for the year 1850, make the value of buildings \$6,945,380, and of lots, including buildings \$13,738,693. This shows an increase in the value of real estate of nearly one hundred per cent. within the last ten years.

The correspondent at Plaquemine of the New Orleans True Delta says, that on the night of the 7th instant "the bank of the river in front of the lower part of the town caved in and has already destroyed property to the amount of \$50,000."

The British war steamer *Gallathea*, on the 4th of August, off the island of Fernando Po, fell in with the brig *Huntress*, of Philadelphia, without a navigator, the captain, mate, and one of the crew having died of coast fever. Lieut. ROBINSON, of the British Navy, was put on board, and has safely delivered the vessel to her owners in Philadelphia.

IMPORTANT INVENTION.—The Pittsburgh Journal says that Mr. C. EVANS, of that city, has invented and constructed a new apparatus for ascertaining at all times the pressure of steam in steamboats and other boilers. It has been submitted to some practical engineers, and pronounced to be the best machine for the purpose hitherto devised. Its great merit is that it is not at all liable to be broken or damaged. Neither mercury nor glass is used.

WINE-MAKING IN MISSOURI.—Information brought out at the dinner of the Horticultural Society of St. Louis gives us a higher estimate of the progress made in wine-making in Missouri than we had any idea of. It appears that at Hermann alone, a small German village in Gasconade county, on the Missouri river, there are four hundred acres in vines. All around Hermann are hills, and nothing but hills—the village being built on the only plain to be found. These hills are covered and crowned by fresh and luxuriant young vineyards, and from them will be produced this year from thirty to forty thousand gallons of wine, which is sold at the price of from \$1 to \$1.50 per gallon. The business of wine-making at Hermann is already carried on under that division of labor necessary for the attainment of the greatest success. There are three classes altogether distinct now engaged in it: the grape-grower, the wine-presser, and the wine-merchant. "The day is not distant," says the St. Louis Intelligencer, "when our State will be distinguished for her grapes and wines as for her hemp, tobacco, and other heavier products."

UNION MEETING IN MOBILE.

A great meeting, in pursuance of a call signed by more than seven hundred of the citizens of Mobile, to express their adherence to the Union, and to sustain the general adjustment of the slavery question, as recently adopted by Congress, was held in that city on the 8th inst. The proceedings of the meeting, as published in the Mobile Daily Advertiser, indicate a strong spirit of enthusiasm and patriotic ardor. Judge HOPKINS, who presided on the occasion, delivered a speech which is spoken of as unusually able and eloquent. Among the resolutions adopted we quote the following, to show the nationality of sentiment which animated the large concourse:

Resolved, That the Union of these States, which constitutes us one people, is justly dear to us as a main pillar in the edifice of our independence; the support of our tranquility at home and our peace abroad, of our safety, of our prosperity, and of that very liberty we so justly prize. That the progress of the United States, under our free and happy institutions, has surpassed the most sanguine hopes of the founders of the Republic. That our growth has been rapid beyond former example in numbers, in wealth, in knowledge, and all the useful arts which contribute to the comfort and convenience of man, and that twenty millions of people, associated together in one political body, have enjoyed so much freedom and happiness as the people of these United States.

Resolved, That we want no representation in the Convention proposed shortly to be held in Nashville, nor do we desire any call of the Legislature of this State, nor any other proceeding tending to oppose the laws of our Government; that we desire the development of our resources, the advancement of our arts and industry, and to enjoy quietly the prosperity now opening before us, under the flag of our glorious Union and the constitution of the United States, the noble legacy left us by our forefathers, which we will preserve in honor of their memory.

Resolved, That we recognize no right in any State as such to secede from the Union or dissolve its connection with it, nor to nullify any law of the General Government; that the Government can only be abolished by the exercise of the right of revolution, which is an individual right, and to be resorted to only when the alternative of civil war, peril of life, and danger of general anarchy is preferable to existing evils and oppression; and not when a people are enjoying the benefits of a constitutional and representative Government, and are in the full tide of prosperity.

The number present at the meeting is estimated by the Advertiser at near two thousand persons—acknowledged to have been the largest political meeting ever held in that city. The Advertiser speaks of it as follows:

"There is no mistaking this demonstration. A large majority of the voters of Mobile county were present, and put their seal of approbation on the odious doctrine of secession, and all other schemes for the dissolution of the Union. Under the broad banner of the Union, Whigs and Democrats met harmoniously together, forgetting all party differences, and pledged themselves to each other to make common cause in defence of the constitution as it is, and the Union as it is."

MOVEMENTS IN GEORGIA.

The Union men of Georgia seem to be arousing themselves in the glorious cause of peace and union. A large meeting was held on the 5th instant in Clarke county, which manifested the greatest enthusiasm in behalf of the Union. The meeting was addressed by Mr. Speaker COBB, who has already taken the field, and the following resolution adopted:

Resolved, That while we regard it an inalienable privilege to assemble in Convention, and assert our rights in a solemn form, and while we fully appreciate the rights of the South, and are prepared at all times to maintain them, when attacked or menaced, yet we see nothing in the recent action of Congress upon the great subject which has engaged their attention for almost the entire period of the late session that demands of us resistance or secession either permanent or temporary.

Two Whigs and two Democrats were nominated as the candidates of the Union party for the Convention.

A meeting of the people has also been held in Lumpkin county, which took strong ground in favor of sustaining the Union. They adopted the following resolution:

Resolved, That we will not support any man as a Delegate to the Convention, now called by the Governor, who is for resisting the action of Congress, by a dissolution of the Union, secession, non-intercourse, or any other hostile measure whatever.

Other counties are adopting similar measures. The Savannah Republican has assurances from fifteen counties, in great cotton-growing sections of the State of Georgia, that stanch Union delegates will be elected from each of those counties to the State Convention.

VIRGINIA CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION.—In this body at Richmond, on Wednesday, a proposition of Mr. FAYLICK, to procure the census statistics as soon as practicable opened a debate on the subject of adjourning the Convention to a future day, in order to obtain the desired data of population, taxation, and land assessments. Mr. WISE, who is an advocate of the white-belt principle, indicated his purpose to content strenuously for the adjournment. The matter having been temporarily postponed, many propositions as to how they should proceed were thrown upon the Clerk's table and ordered to be printed.

Governor KING, of Missouri, has granted an unconditional pardon to GONZALEZ MONTESQUE, it being satisfactorily proven that the young man is a confirmed lunatic. It is believed that a *non prosequi* will be entered in the case of the younger brother, who, it is supposed, had no hand in the murder of young Barnum.

EXPLOSION OF GUNPOWDER.—The store of Mr. JAMES STEPHENS, at Columbia, Missouri, was suddenly reduced to ruins on the 5th instant by the accidental ignition of a quantity of gunpowder, and Messrs. JOSHUA M. SHORT and BENJ. T. WHITE killed, and ten or twelve other persons injured. The accident is said to have occurred in this way:

Mr. Stephens was receiving a large stock of goods, which were lying about the floor in boxes unopened. Two kegs of powder composed a part of the stock. These were received the night previous, and were placed in the lobby near the counter, and some ten feet from the door. On the morning of the catastrophe one of the kegs was discovered to be in bad order; that is, it was seen even through the seeking that powder had leaked from the sides or bottom on to the floor. The quantity was small, but, to prevent accident, the sound keg was placed by one of the clerks on the top of the unopened one, the intention being very soon to remove both to a shed back of the store where the powder of the establishment is kept. Mr. Short came to the store smoking a cigar, and while standing near the two kegs, fire dropped from the cigar (as is supposed) on the loose powder on the floor, the quantity not being larger than a gun-load, and instantly the house was in ruins.

We see it stated that Mr. BOWMAN will contest the election of Mr. W. P. HALE, in the Fourth Congressional District of Missouri, on the ground that a large number of votes were given for Mr. Hall by persons residing in the territory recently attached to the State of Iowa, by the decision of the Supreme Court of the United States. The St. Louis Republic thinks it probable that a large number of such votes were given for Mr. Hall; and, as they voted *sine voce*, there will be no difficulty of establishing the fact.

COFFEE.—Forty-two years ago the annual crop of coffee in Brazil did not exceed 30,000 bags. Even in 1820 it only reached 100,000 bags. At that time the high price of coffee in England, and the diminished production in Cuba, stimulated the Brazilian planters to extend its cultivation, and in 1830 they sent to market 400,000 bags, or 64,000,000 pounds; and in 1847 the enormous quantity of nearly 300,000,000 pounds.

The St. Louis Times states that five counterfeiters have been arrested at Osawatomie, Missouri. Several bundles of counterfeit coin were found in their possession.

FROM THE WESTCHESTER VILLAGE RECORD.

DEATH FROM HYDROPHOBIA.—Mr. Joseph Hunt, one of the oldest residents and most respectable citizens of the county, was seized with symptoms of hydrophobia on Tuesday last, and, after suffering much pain and anguish, died Friday evening following. He was a man of robust constitution, about seventy years of age, and of great benevolence and goodness of character, and universally respected. The wound was inflicted upon the wrist of the right arm, and although apparently not much more than a scratch, the blood flowed freely. After a day or two the wrist was tied up by an intimate friend, and the only person to whom he communicated the bite, and it quickly healed. In order to relieve his sufferings, chloroform was administered by inhalation, which afforded him temporary relief.

APPOINTMENTS BY THE PRESIDENT.

CHARLES S. TODD, of Mississippi, OLIVER P. TEMPLE, of Tennessee, and ROBERT B. CAMPBELL, of South Carolina, to be Commissioners to procure information, collect statistics, make presents to and treaties with the Indian tribes on the borders of Mexico, as authorized by the act of Congress approved September 30, 1850.

GEORGE W. BARBOUR, RICHARD MCKEE, and O. M. WOZENCRAFT, to be Commissioners to make treaties with Indians in California, as authorized by the act of Congress approved September 30, 1850.

STIMON FRANCIS, of Illinois, to be Indian Agent in Oregon, vice Anson G. Henry, resigned.

OHIO CONGRESSIONAL ELECTION.

Districts. Members elected.

1. Hamilton, &c., David T. Disney, Locofoco.

2. Butler, &c., Lewis D. Campbell, Whig.

3. Montgomery, &c., Hiram Bell, Whig.

4. Logan, &c., Benjamin Stanton, Whig.

5. Lucas, &c., A. P. Edgerton, Locofoco.

6. Seneca, &c., Frederick F. Green, Locofoco.

7. Brown, &c., Alexander Harper, Whig.

8. Ross, &c., John L. Taylor, Whig.

9. Fairfield, &c., Edson B. Olds, Locofoco.

10. Franklin, &c., Charles Sweetser, Locofoco.

11. Richmond, &c., George H. Busby, Locofoco.

12. Athens, &c., John Welch, Whig.

13. Morgan, &c., James M. Gaylord, Locofoco.

14. Muskingum, &c., Alexander Harper, Whig.

15. Belmont, &c., Wm. F. Hunter, Whig.

16. Concho, &c., John Johnson, Independent.

17. Jefferson, &c., James Cabell, Locofoco.

18. Wayne, &c., David K. Carter, Locofoco.

19. Summit, &c., Eben Newton, Free-Soil Whig.

20. Ashland, &c., J. R. Giddings, Free-Soil.

21. Lorain, &c., Norton S. Townsend, Abolition.

So stands the new Congressional delegation from Ohio. We lose Finner by a sad defection in Washington. It is possible the official vote will change the result, but as at present advised, we think GAYLORD is elected.

JOHNSON, Independent, is elected to Congress in the 16th district over HOAGLAND.

The result for Congress is, 9 Whigs, 9 Democrats, GIDDINGS, Free-Soil, TOWNSEND, Abolition, LOCO, and JOHNSON, Independent. So much for Ohio in 1850.—*Ohio State Journal*.

LATER FROM CALIFORNIA.

The steamer *Crescent City* arrived at New York yesterday morning, bringing advices from San Francisco to the 11th of September. She brings 342 passengers, among whom there is estimated to be about one million dollars worth of gold dust.

No cases of cholera had occurred at Chagres for the two previous weeks. Panama was also very healthy.

The following passengers, on board the *Crescent City*, died on the passage between Chagres and New York, viz: John W. Haskell, of Boston; Edward Cuthbert, of Newbern, N. C.; Samuel Strickland Rodman, of New York; John Houghton, of Windsor, Vermont.

Mayor BIDDLE, of Sacramento City, since the amputation of his arm, rendered necessary from the wound received at the riot, is fast recovering.

Every thing is quiet in Sacramento City, and there was no apprehension of further disturbance.

The business at the mines generally was prosperous. At the northern mines and along Nelson's creek miners were averaging fully a half ounce per day. From the south branch and the north fork of Feather river the miners were also making handsome returns for their labor.

Rich and very productive dry diggings have been discovered between Nelson's creek and the mouth of Dutch creek, which empty into the Sacramento.

Henry M. Nagle, an extensive banker, has failed for a very large amount. This caused a run on all the banking houses; but they have held out, with the exception of the one mentioned.

LIBERIA.

The following further accounts of the progress of the Republic of Liberia are from a letter from President ROBERTS, dated Monrovia, July 19:

"Since I last wrote our public affairs, as usual, have been advancing quickly and in order.

"The slaves are very loth to give up their traffic at Gallinas and New Castles. A few weeks ago a Spanish schooner, after slaves, appeared off the former place, and was boarded by one of our Majesty's cruisers; but as she had no slave cargo, nor any slave equipments to be found on board, she was not detained. The captain of the schooner, however, actually communicated to the chiefs on shore his intention to take slaves if they were to be obtained; but they, having so recently ceded to us the jurisdiction of the territory, at once declined to enter into any arrangements with him. He then proceeded to New Castles and Tradeport, and the following day he was seen in doubtless for one hundred slaves on delivery at the beach. He here, I regret to say, found some encouragement, at least in promises, from two or three of the head men. In the meantime, however, we received intelligence of his real character, and dispatched our little vessel, the *Lark*, to seize him, if found upon our coast. By this time her Majesty's ship *Hound* was also in search of him. The vessel was not certainly one of those movements, and I am happy to say, abandoned his purpose, at least on this part of the coast. I understand he has gone to try the south coast. I feel quite sure that the slave trade cannot again be revived within the territorial limits of Liberia; that, between Sierra Leone and Cape Palmas. Without barracks on shore in which to collect slaves, they cannot possibly carry on their traffic. The only place where it can be established on the territory over which our laws extend.

"It is satisfactory to state that Mr. Shaw, who has the management of an expedition fitted up by several eminent mercantile and manufacturing firms in England, for the purpose of testing, by practical experiments, the possibility of obtaining a supply of cotton from the west coast of Africa, is here, and has commenced operations under very encouraging prospects. There is but little doubt that cotton of good quality can be produced in Liberia, and I am exceedingly gratified at the opportunity now afforded to settle the question, and to encourage our citizens to renewed exertion."

MARK THE CONSEQUENCES.—Races appear to be getting into vogue, for large sums of money, between different lines of ocean steamers departing from the port of New York. What will be the natural and, sooner or later, the certain consequence of such a practice?

The latest of these races takes place this day, and is thus announced in the correspondence of the Baltimore Sun: "A race is talked of between the steamship *Baltic*, of Collins' line, and the propeller *Union*, lately arrived here from Philadelphia, and shortly to start for California. A large amount has been put up, the forfeit being \$25,000, and the race is to come off on Thursday, when the *Baltic* starts on her first trip to Liverpool. The distance prescribed is between the city and Sandy Hook."

NEWSPAPER DOG.—The Albany Knickerbocker boasts of a dog "connected with that office" who excels in sagacity all other newspaper dogs recently noticed. He belongs to one of the carriers, and is in the daily habit of accompanying his master, and served upwards of six hundred papers. The carrier was taken sick the other day and could not carry his route, but the dog undertook the duty, and accompanied by an office boy, stopped at the house of every subscriber. Strange to say, he did not miss a subscriber, and in this respect he showed himself more faithful than some biped carriers.

NOTICE TO INVENTORS.

GEO. R. WEST, Draughtsman and Solicitor of Patents, Patent in this and other countries.

His long experience in the business—having served several years as a pupil of the late Dr. T. P. Jones—added to a thorough knowledge of the Patent Law, and familiarity with the details of conducting applications through the office, will, he trusts, enable him to give satisfaction.

Specifications and Drawings are carefully prepared, defective specifications and imperfect drawings revised and corrected to meet the objections of the office, and all other business connected with his profession carefully and promptly attended to.

Office on Eighth street, opposite the General Post Office.

He has permission to refer Patents and others, at home and abroad, to the following gentlemen:

Hon. Daniel Webster, Secretary of State.

Hon. William F. Maynor, Secretary of North Carolina.

Hon. Thomas Corwin, Secretary of the Treasury.

Hon. W. L. Dayton, Senator of New Jersey.

Hon. Van Buren, Minister of Prussia.

Professor Henry, LL.D., Secretary of the Smithsonian Institution.

Hon. Elihu Whittelsey, Washington.

Messrs. Gales & Seaton, Washington.

Oct 19—ly

DETICATO GOVERNMENT, a novel, by Mrs. Trollope, price 25 cents. This day received, and for sale by

L. FARNHAM.

MIGRATION OF FRUITS AND FLOWERS.

In carrying out the law laid down in the following Address, the American is destined to give back to the Old World more than he has received. He is enteringprising from the very freedom of his institutions, and, therefore, he will improve whatever he touches, and add new things to the old. The New World is full of beautiful flowers, and new to the nations of the Old. How much, for example, has been done in the propagation of the dahlias alone, the favorite flower of autumn! The American, too, goes to all parts of the earth; our navy spreads her canvass into every sea. Our officers and our travellers should think it a point of duty to bring back to their own country new seeds and roots of the choicest flowers and fruits that may grow at home.—*Union*.

Extract from an address of E. D. MANFIELD, Esq., before the Cincinnati Horticultural Society, delivered October 4, 1850.

We may note that the migration of plants has accompanied the migration of civilized man. This diffusion and naturalization of plants, native to one land, in other lands is evidence that man himself has emigrated, and that in the colonization he has become improved and civilized. It is remarkable how completely parallel is the case of the vegetable race with the human race in this mode of improvement. One may think that it is natural for any man, in going from one country to another, to take, as far as possible, the species of plants to which he is accustomed with him. But it is not so. Savage man never does it; and even semi-civilized men do not. It is only when communities advanced in intelligence have great commerce, and, by industry, have accumulated the means of gratifying tastes, that they have transplanted the members of the vegetable kingdom, naturalized them in new soil, and collected, in great gardens, vast numbers and varieties. Thus the migration and improvement of plants become conclusive evidence of the migration and improvement of man. The process of improvement is not very different. Labor, care, culture, training, grafting, nourishing, and pruning are necessary to both. The wild olive and the wild man require the same diligence in training before they can reach excellence.

If one could write the history of the migration of plants, even in modern ages, it would be one of the most surprising, instructing, and entertaining chapters ever written. It would show the fruit and flowers emerging like man himself from Central Asia—following the Euphrates, the coasts of Arabia, and the isles of the sea—pursuing the footsteps of civilization—taking new hues in new climates, and, like man, improved by colonization and by culture. We should see, in a later period, the New World rendering back its tribute to the Old. We should find the plants and flowers which were first filling the gardens of Europe with their bloom, and feeding millions who, but for them, could never have lived. And we may see, in this returning tide of products from New World, a symbolical representation of that tide of light and liberty which shall flow from the western continent to the land of the Orient.

Let us notice, as an illustration of this principle, the migration of the rose, the most known plant. To begin with flowers: The tube rose was brought from the East Indies, where it grew wild in Java and Ceylon. The full tube roses were first raised from seed at Leyden, and have since formed quite an article of traffic. The crown imperial was brought in the sixteenth century from Persia to Constantinople, carried over to Vienna, and dispersed over Europe. The Persian lily, nearly related to it, was brought from Suzu to Constantinople.

The African and French marigolds were supposed to have been brought from Africa in the time of Charles V, but are really native to Peru, in South America.

The Gossypium luteum was brought from Japan. A ship returning from Japan was wrecked on the coast of Guernsey, where the bulle took root, and whence it bears its name.

Of the numerous genus of the ranunculids, there are said to be more than a thousand different kinds; but the principal part of them, and those most esteemed, were brought from Asia. This migration took place at the time of the Crusades. They were sent to Constantinople by the officers of the Sultan, and thence they were carried to Marseilles and dispersed over Europe.

The amarillid formosissima came from South America, whence it was brought by De Tovar, a physician, and there it was subsequently found to be indigenous.

I might continue this list of emigrant flowers to an indefinite extent; and in every country of high civilization the foreign flora will probably be found the most numerous. In this country we are deeply indebted to the southern portion of this continent. Unless I am mistaken, some of the finest modern flowers exhibited here have come from South America. Of the numerous family of the cacti, the finest have originated in Mexico, Guatemala, and the central provinces. Over a great part of that country they seem to be the dominant plant, and are everywhere to be found on the southern rim of the territory in which this plant is indigenous, it is unusually and unpretending; but under the warm sun of the tropic it turns first into one of the most various, brilliant, and curious flowers which have ever been given to man.

Let us turn from flowers to fruit. The apricot is a native of Armenia.

The plum, although found wild in this country, is supposed to have originated in Asia. One variety (the damascene) took its name from Damascus, the Syrian city.

The peach is a native of Persia, whence it spread over Europe and this country.

The nectarine is also a native of Persia, introduced into Europe about the sixteenth century.

Cherries are said to come from Cerasus, a city of Pontus, whence Lucullus brought them after the Mithridatic war. They extended wherever the Romans spread their arms, and were introduced into England in the first century.

The mulberry is a native of Persia, whence it was introduced into Europe about the sixteenth century.

The apple, quince, and vine are natives of many countries, and it is not known that they belong specially to any one. This review, however, shows that some of the finest and most delicious of our fruits originated in Persia, Armenia, and other parts of Asia, whence they have been transplanted, civilized, and improved by culture, under the auspices of civilization.

Let us look a little further into the more important branches of agriculture. How stands the origin and propagation of the grains and grasses by which men and animals are sustained?

Prior to the fifteenth century, barley and wheat were almost the only grains in use through Europe, or even Asia. All of the most important articles of vegetable food known to our day were unknown prior to the sixteenth century. The maize, or Indian corn, is a native of America, unknown to Europe or Asia till introduced from this country; yet, in the course of two or three centuries, it has been introduced throughout the Old World wherever the climate is not too cold. The potato is another article of vegetable food originally from America, and probably the most universal food of food used.

Buckwheat is a native of Northern Asia, and is not a cereal plant, although classed among them. It was introduced into France in the sixteenth century, and soon became the food of the common people. I need not add other illustrations of the principle that the migration of plants has accompanied the migration of man, and, like that of man, has improved their condition, and been one of the means of advancing civilization. It is a beautiful law of social nature that man, the wanderer, in his struggles for a better condition; in his labor for subsistence; in his search after higher pleasure; in his very exile from the lost garden, diffuses in all regions by his labors the blessings of a benign Providence, brings out the order of universal creation, and chants the sweet music of universal harmony.

WRITINGS OF J. R. McCULLOUGH.—The able essays of J. R. McCULLOUGH, upon the subjects of Exchange, Interest, Money, Bullion, &c., have been reprinted in the *Bankers' Magazine*, a monthly work issued by Mr. J. SMITH HOBANS, Boston.

These essays have also been republished in a separate volume, 144 pages octavo. Of these writings the *London Quarterly Review* says:

"Mr. McCULLOUGH has condensed a great mass of knowledge, which men of all parties should be glad to see so put together, in his 'Political Economy,' 'Exchange,' 'Interest,' 'Paper Money,' and 'Principles of Banking.'"

This edition is accompanied with copious tables of coins and money of account of all nations, and it becomes an essential work to every banker and dealer in money. Published by G. F. PUTNAM, New York.

A Boston proposer proposes a plan by which they who choose may go to London and see the big fair in the spring and come back again, all for not more than one hundred dollars. He says he has ascertained from good authority that, prior to one hundred passengers can be conveyed, the great stores of a line of first-class coaches will agree to furnish a passage to Liverpool and back, and provide good accommodations and excellent fare, for the sum of sixty dollars per person, the whole trip and stay to include about three months.

An Irishman being asked if he was in the habit of going to the States, replied that he was in the habit of going to the States, and that he was in the habit of going to the States.

FROM HAVANA.

Accounts from Havana to the 8th instant represent that much excitement exists there on account of a rumor of another invasion. The soldiers sleep on their arms, and the officers are vigilant and active. The navy war-steamer are out every day, and there is every preparation and readiness to give the expected invaders a warm reception. A letter suggests—

"That the true cause, probably, of the vigilance of the regular army and navy, has arisen from the proceedings of the late few days. This island has been in a state of siege since the Lopez expedition. This has been raised, and the militia disbanded. They were called upon to give up the arms they had received from the Government; and, not immediately obeying, an officer and men proceeded to the houses of the volunteers and took all the arms they could find. This has enraged some of the old Spaniards who volunteered to push down the Lopez party, since they now find the Government fails to protect them with arms for its security and preservation. At all events, the political horizon of Cuba bears a gloomy and portentous appearance. It may be hoped that in a few days this state of affairs will wear off—when the idea of immediate invasion will explode, and the people find that the report was all a humbug, got up by some speculator who is anxious to buy shipping at reduced prices."

THE LATE MAIL ROBBERY—ARREST OF THE SUPPOSED ROBBERS.

Five men have been arrested, and are now in custody, who there is good reason to believe are the perpetrators of the daring robbery of the United States mail, in the southwestern suburbs of Philadelphia, on Saturday night last. A man of doubtful repute, from Baltimore, named Isaiah, Isaac, or Joseph Downs, and better known by the not very felicitous sobriquet of "Stomachy," on Monday evening, while under the influence of liquor, conspired with Mr. Thompson, an ex-police officer, in South Broad street, and informed him of his plan to rob the mail; that he was himself concerned in the robbery; and, as he had been treated badly by the robbers who planned and executed it, he was resolved to blow on them. Downs communicated to Mr. Stubbins the whole of the circumstances of the robbery; and Mr. St., obtaining the assistance of a party of the day and night police of the southwest division, between nine and ten o'clock on Monday night proceeded to a place on Federal street, between Broad street and Long Lane, in West Moyamensing, known as "Ram Row," where five men, indicated by Downs, were arrested. The men were all taken in different houses. The "Ram Row" was in a state of confusion, and almost every one of the inmates seemed to be intoxicated.

The names of the prisoners are Thomas Veich, James Bell, Thomas Brannin, John McCarthy, and Robert McDowell. They were taken to the station-house, corner of Schuylkill and Eighth streets, and yesterday morning, between twelve and one o'clock, the undersigned an examination before the United States District Attorney, John W. May Jr., Esq., being present to conduct the hearing on the part of the Government. Downs was examined as a State's evidence, and his testimony against the accused was direct and positive. The examination resulted in the prisoners being fully committed, in default of \$5,000 bail each, to answer at the next term of the United States District Court, at about an o'clock yesterday morning the prisoners were conveyed to the county prison. They are all Englishmen and Irishmen. Most of them are well-known old offenders, and two of them are convicts not long since enlarged from the penitentiary, where they had served for protracted periods. Three of them are gray-headed, and they are all men of the hardest appearance.

According to Downs's account, the mail car was entered by a false key, and the pouches thrown out. The bags were then gathered up, and the robbers, wading through a pond to prevent themselves from being tracked, took the pouches to a stable in the rear of "Ram Row," where the letters were taken out. Downs has been detained in custody. The rifled letters were sent to the clerk of the United States District Court, where they were discovered on Sunday morning. The prisoners make no defence. They were silent as to the robbery. The money they obtained is supposed to have been buried, and it is thought that it will be recovered. We will add that a quantity of silver spoons, and other articles of value, have been recovered from the above prisoners, all of which are supposed to have been stolen. Captain Bind informs us that he made the arrest of Brien, alias Brannin. In addition to the above arrests, another person, named Henry Shriver, was taken into custody by officer Pidgeon, and locked up for a hearing to-day before Mayor Gilpin. [*Philadelphia Inquirer*, Oct. 16.]

GUTTA PERCHA AND INDIA RUBBER.

The variety of practical purposes to which these articles are applied is truly wonderful. The most important recent application of India Rubber is in the shape of springs for railway carriages, which has produced a most desirable improvement in the comfort of travelling. The Gutta Percha seems, however, to be capable of even more various uses than India Rubber. We recently procured from Messrs. Williams and Claiborne, who are the agents in this city for the "Hudson Manufacturing Company" of New York, a band made of this curious substance to work our Napier printing press with. It has proved itself to be much preferable to leather, being much firmer and less liable to wear. We learn that it is getting into very extensive use in the shape of bands for heavy machinery of all kinds. Another form in which we shall find it convenient to mention the Gutta Percha is in the shape of tubes, and in the shape of sheets, for use in the construction of telegraph cables, and in the shape of sheets, for use in the construction of telegraph cables, and in the shape of sheets, for use in the construction of telegraph cables.